



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Applicant: Robert YS Huang, et al

Serial No.: 10/026,257

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: December 21, 2001

For: A Mask Layer and Interconnect
Structure for Dual Damascene
Fabrication of a Semiconductor
Device

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Assignment Division
Box ASSIGNMENTS, CG-4
1213 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Ste. 320
Washington, DC 20231

DECLARATION OF MARY V. CARTER

1. My name is Mary V. Carter. I am the Legal Assistant to General Counsel for the Intellectual Property Law Section at Agere Systems, Inc., 9333 South John Young Parkway, Orlando, Florida 32819-8698.

2. The above-reference patent application was filed on December 21, 2001 by our outside intellectual property counsel. In preparation for the filing of this application, the Declaration and Power of Attorney and Assignment and Agreement documents were forwarded to the inventors, all of whom were employees of Agere Systems, Inc. at the time the invention was disclosed.

3. At the time of the filing of the above-referenced application, Joshua Jia Li was no longer employed by Agere Systems, Inc. The documents were forwarded to Mr. Li at his last known address, 8615 Forest Run Lane, Orlando, Florida 32836. The United States Post Office returned the documents with no forwarding address information. All attempts to locate Mr. Li have been to no avail.

4. The other named inventors, who are also employees of Agere Systems, Inc., have advised me that Mr. Li has moved to Singapore; however, no one has a forwarding address for Mr. Li, and we are otherwise unable to find or contact Mr. Li.

5. I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and believe are believed to be true and further that

these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application and any registration resulting therefrom.

Signed at Orlando, Florida, this 13th day of February, 2002.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mary V. Carter", written over a horizontal line.

Mary V. Carter

Title:

Agere Systems, Inc.